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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Sakhalin)	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1
SUBJECT	Sociological Conditions in Sakhalin	DATE DISTR.	26 August 1953	
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1. All Japanese in Southern Sakhalin have been removed from the coastal areas inland to a distance of approximately 4 km. Unless a Japanese has a special right to work in a town, it is difficult for him to remain in one. According to regulations, travel is prohibited between one region and another and between one village and another without a special certificate.
2. In South Sakhalin the Japanese residents have been organized by the People's Representatives (nachalniki) into groups of two or three households, mutually responsible for each other.¹ The People's Representatives are responsible for the issuance of certificates of all types. It is from these representatives that the Japanese obtain authorization to go from one area to another.
3. The housing problem in Sakhalin is acute. Housing for the Japanese is regulated by the government through the People's Representatives, and individual building by anyone is prohibited. Some Japanese have constructed barracks out of logs, but even these are crowded, with four or five families to a room.
4. There is less rice available in Sakhalin than in Japan, but enough for minimum needs; in general, rice is not eaten. One sho (about two quarts) costs in rubles the equivalent of about 40 Japanese yen.² All flour has been ordered stocked as emergency food stores.

Comments

1. People's Representatives is a literal translation from the Japanese; however, the Soviets refer to these people as nachalniki (leaders).
2. This is about half the price for rationed rice in Japan and one-fourth the black-market price.

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